

**Poland Press Roundtable with Raytheon**  
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**Sheraton Warsaw**

Thank you, Dan. It's a pleasure to be here with you this morning to talk about the U.S. government's strong support for Patriot missiles in Poland's defense program.

Raytheon's Patriot is the best Air and Missile Defense system there is. That's why it is the backbone of the U.S. Army's air and missile defense system, and it will remain so until at least 2048. It is also the system of choice for thirteen partner countries, which means Patriot brings immediate interoperability with NATO member nations, and multiple opportunities for joint training and deployments. With Patriot, Poland's stature as a leader and major contributor within NATO would grow.

Patriot is a tried and tested system with decades of combat experience. It has demonstrated its effectiveness since Operation Desert Storm in Iraq, when Patriot systems protected U.S. and allied forces against Iraqi tactical ballistic missiles with a very high success rate. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, Patriots were one hundred percent effective in destroying nine out of nine missiles fired by the Iraqis against coalition forces. Since then, Patriot has undergone extensive modification and modernization to meet the demands of modern tactical and strategic threats.

The development of Poland's missile defense system comes at a key time in the relationship between our countries. Over the past several years, we have taken our security relationship to a new level with a growing U.S. military presence in, and cooperation with, Poland. We are committed to working with Poland to modernize its armed forces and increasing our information sharing arrangements, so that we will be well prepared for any threat.

The Polish integrated air and missile defense program, known as WISLA, presents an excellent opportunity to accelerate and deepen our bilateral defense relationship. In choosing the Patriot system, Poland would intensify U.S.-Poland defense industry cooperation, and I know Raytheon has engaged Polish firms in partnership talks. Some of these relationships have already been formalized, and others will be announced soon.

I am proud that Raytheon, like other American companies, is investing in Poland for the long haul. Such commercial partnerships are a critical part of our strategic security relationship, a relationship that has quickly become fundamental to transatlantic peace and prosperity.

This would be reason enough for Poland to choose Patriot for the modernization of its defense system. And there is another important dimension. By choosing Patriot, Poland would reinforce and expand U.S. military presence in Poland, as well as U.S. presence in Polish industry. You can be sure that the United States will never negotiate contracts for any military systems with Poland's potential enemies. If Poland chooses Patriot, we will be ready to work together to ensure that Poland will be a key partner in getting access to technology that will allow it to modernize its military.

Secretary Kerry said during his visit last year, and Secretary Hagel said as well, that we created a team within the U.S. government to accelerate technology transfer to Poland. We demonstrated our ability to do this when we recently made the decision to sell JASSM missiles to Poland in just seven months, a

record amount of time. So you can count on the U.S. government to be ready to provide the support that Poland needs.

Thank you very much.